

Saint John's Episcopal Church
Morning Prayer
Christmas

Behold, the dwelling of God is with mankind. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God. *Revelation 21:3*

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Alleluia. To us a child is born:

Come let us adore him.

Jubilate *Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *

serve the Lord with gladness

and come before his presence with a song

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *

he himself has made us, and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; *

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; *

and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

The Psalm *appointed for the day*

At the end of the Psalms is said

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The 1st Lesson

A Reading from _____

After the lesson,

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle 11 The Third Song of Isaiah (*Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c 18-19*)

Arise, shine, for your light has come,*
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise,*

and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations Will stream to your light,*

and kings to the brightness of your dawning.

Your gates will always be open;*

by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord, *

The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Violence will no more be heard in your land,*

ruin or destruction within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation,*

and all your portals, Praise.

The sun will no more be your light by day; *

by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

The Lord will be your everlasting light,*

and your God will be your glory.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle 15 The Song of Mary (*Luke 1:46-55*)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
**the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him *

in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *

and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *

for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and
to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the begin-
ning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Gospel Lesson

A Reading from the Gospel According to

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the reading

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Reflection

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is
in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread. And for-
give us our trespasses, as we forgive
those who trespass against us. And lead
us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and
the power, and the glory, for ever and ev-
er. Amen.**

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you
have

brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us
with your

mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor
be overcome

by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the ful-
filling of

your purpose; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of petition, intercession, thanksgiving

**O God, you have made of one blood all the
peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed
Son to preach peace to those who are far off
and to those who are near: Grant that people
everywhere may seek after you and find you;
bring the nations into your fold; pour out
your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the
coming of your kingdom; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Let us Bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can
do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine:
Glory to him from generation to generation in
the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.
Amen. Ephesians 3:20, 21